

Message Text

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15
ACTION IO-13

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E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: PORG, SY
SUBJECT: SYRIAN PERMREP OUTLINES SYRIAN UNGA STRATEGY
IN PRESS INTERVIEW

1. SEPT. 3 AL-THAWRAH PUBLISHED LENGTHY INTERVIEW WITH SYRIA'S UN PERMREP ALLAF IN WHICH HE DISCUSSED SYRIAN DIPLOMATIC STRATEGY AT UPCOMING UNGA. HE INTIMATED THAT SYRIA CONSIDERING TAKING PALESTINIAN ISSUE TO UNGA SINCE SECURITY COUNCIL HAD VETOED RESOLUTION ON PALESTINE AT SPECIAL JANUARY SESSION. HE SAID SYRIA INTENDS TO "FOLLOW THIS UP" AT UNGA WITH HELP OF THIRD WORLD STATES, AND CITED CUMBO RECOMMENDATION FOR MORE PROGRESS ON PALESTINE ISSUE. HE ADMITTED THAT SUCCESS OF SYRIA'S EFFORTS WOULD DEPEND UPON ARAB SOLIDARITY AND COORDINATION: NONETHELESS, IF ARABS COULD NOT PRODUCE UNIFIED STAND, HE
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PLEDGED SYRIA WOULD ACT ON ITS OWN TO FURTHER

PALESTINIAN CAUSE. HE SPECIFICALLY APPEALED FOR
DIMINISHMENT OF ARAB DISAGREEMENTS DURING MONTH
PRECEDING UNGA CONVOCATION.

2. TAKING UP THEME HE WILL UNDOUBTEDLY REITERATE AT
GA SESSION, ALLAF STRESSED "NECESSITY OF WORKING TOWARD
INCREASING ISRAEL'S INTERNATIONAL ISOLATION AND EXPLOITING
RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN TEL AVIV AND PRETORIA, ESPECIALLY
GROWING CONVICTION AMONG AFRICANS OF CONFORMITY BETWEEN
THE TWO RACIST SYSTEMS. THIS POINT SHOULD BE IMPORTANT
IN ARAB TACTICS AND STRATEGY AT FORTHCOMING SESSION."
HE ALSO REMINDED READERS THAT AFTER LAST UNGA HAD
CONDEMNED ZIONISM AS FORM OF RACISM, "ZIONISM AND WORLD
IMPERIALISM LAUNCHED FIERCE CAMPAIGN AGAINST STATES WHICH
VOTED FOR THIS RES. AND BROUGHT TO BEAR ON THEM UNLIMITED
ECONOMIC AND POLITICAL PRESSURE TO INTIMIDATE AND TEMPT THEM."

3. COMMENT. ALLAF APPEARS TO RECOGNIZE THAT CURRENT
DIVISIVENESS IN ARAB RANKS DOES NOT BODE WELL FOR ARABS IN
UPCOMING UNGA SESSION. WHILE UNDOUBTEDLY AWARE THAT THREAT
TO TAKE PALESTINIAN ISSUE TO GA MAY SOUND HOLLOW TO SOME AT
THIS TIME, HE NEVERTHELESS APPEARS INTENT ON MAKING WHAT
IN HIS VIEW IS BEST POSSIBLE SYRIAN CASE BY STRESSING
FAMILIAR THEMES OF ARAB UNITY, THIRD WORLD SOLIDARITY AND
EQUATING ZIONISM WITH RACISM.
PELLETREAU

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